NEWS UPDATE

MARCH 2008

WORKSAFE
WORKING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
worksafebc.com

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Simplified claims reporting

To simplify claims reporting, WorkSafeBC has revised the paper and downloadable versions of the Employer's Report of Injury or Occupational Exposure (Form 7). Information formerly requested on the First Aid Report (Form 7A) is now requested on the revised Form 7. That means you no longer need to submit a First Aid Report to WorkSafeBC. However, you must retain first aid records on site.

To learn more, including information about reporting your claim online – the quickest and easiest way to submit your report – plus more details about first aid requirements, visit **www.worksafebc.com/news_room/features/2008/new_012508.asp**.

Changes to Forestry Regulations

Following extensive consultations with stakeholders and public hearings, the WorkSafeBC Board of Directors has approved changes to the Forestry Regulations. The changes will take effect on May 1, 2008.

These new provisions address the changing nature of B.C.'s forest sector and provide better protection to workers in the areas of prime contractor authority, supervision and planning, as well as increasing safety standards when working in proximity to machinery. The new standards now ensure that prime contractors in the forestry sector have the necessary qualifications and authority to fulfill their legal responsibilities and that there will be a falling supervisor for all manual falling activities.

To see the new regulations, visit **www.worksafebc.com/regulation_and_policy/public_hearings/june_07_ph_feedback/law_40_40_40.asp**.

Changes to WorkSafeBC senior executive

At the end of 2007, Sid Fattedad, vice-president of Finance, Information Services, and Stakeholder Relations and Chief Financial Officer, retired from his position at WorkSafeBC after 14 years of dedicated service. He will continue to work with WorkSafeBC in different capacities, as well as pursue other interests.

On January 1, 2008, Steve Barnett assumed the role of vice-president of Finance and chief financial officer for WorkSafeBC. A chartered accountant, Barnett has been a vice-president at WorkSafeBC since 2004, and the assistant chief financial officer since 2005. He and Fattedad worked closely together over the last two years to ensure a smooth transition.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Guidelines for new working alone regulation

The new Working Alone or in Isolation Regulation came into effect on February 1, 2008. There are new guidelines to help you comply with the regulation.

Visit **www2.worksafebc.com/Safety/ProposedAmendments.asp** for links to a number of resources:

- A downloadable one-page WorkSafe bulletin that provides an overview of the new requirements and what the compliance plan is for working alone or in isolation, late night retail premises, and prepayment for fuel
- A more detailed *Handbook for Employers*
- The approved amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHS)
- The OHS guidelines
- Frequently asked questions

Stakeholder Outreach Program

WorkSafeBC's Board of Directors (BOD) has launched the Stakeholder Outreach Program, aimed at improving the provincial workers' compensation system and addressing the changing needs and concerns of stakeholders. The goals of the program are to promote open communication between stakeholders and individual Board members, solicit feedback on current workers' compensation issues, communicate significant changes and challenges regarding the workers' compensation system, and incorporate that feedback into BOD discussions and decision-making.

To submit a request for a WorkSafeBC BOD member to speak at your event, visit **www.worksafebc.com/about_us/governance/stakeholder/invitation.asp**.

In the March/April issue of WorkSafe Magazine

Returning to work after a serious occupational injury or disease takes teamwork.

To read this story and about other helpful workplace tools, and to find out how to subscribe, visit **WorkSafeMagazine.com**.

Did You Know?

WorkSafeBC wrote 51,690 health and safety orders in 2007.

Survey rates employer satisfaction

WorkSafeBC is dedicated to improving the service we provide to employers. To measure how we're doing, we survey employers who have had two or more claims in the previous three months. In 2007, 78 percent of those surveyed rated their overall experience with WorkSafeBC as good or very good. The score equalled our previous high from 2006, but was slightly lower than our target of 79 percent for the year. Overall, employers reported lower satisfaction with the claim process, but they gave WorkSafeBC higher marks for workplace inspections and the reduced cost of premiums.

Calendar of events

Health and Safety Canada 2008 Industrial Accident Prevention Association Conference & Trade Show
April 21 - 23, 2008

Metro Toronto Convention Centre
www.iapa.ca

Day of Mourning
April 28, 2008

www.worksafebc.com/news_room/campaigns/day_of_mourning/default.asp

Western Conference on Safety
May 5 & 6, 2008

Hyatt Regency Vancouver
www.pacificsafetycenter.com/wcs08/

Petroleum Safety Conference
May 6 – 9, 2008

The Banff Centre
www.piass.org

Forest and Resources Expo
June 5 – 7, 2008

CN Centre & Kin Centres, Prince George
www.forestandresources.org

Popular contacts

- Claims Call Centre 604 231-8888, toll-free 1 888 967-5377
- Employer Service Centre 604 244-6181
  toll-free 1 888 922-2768
- Prevention Information Line 604 276-3100
  toll-free 1 888 621-7233
- Human Resources 604 276-3009, toll-free 1 888 757-5552
- Report fraud 1 877 523-3315

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This newsletter is also available electronically on the WorkSafeBC web site at http://www.worksafebc.com/publications/newsletters/news_update/

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